

## ***Pedestal Mounted Stinger (Avenger)***

### ***Description***

The Avenger system provides the Marine Air-Ground Task Force (MAGTF) with a highly mobile Air Defense platform that employs the Stinger missile against close in, low altitude, fixed and rotary wing aircraft throughout the theater of operations. The Avenger is a High Mobility Multi Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) based platform capable of near simultaneous firing of 8-guided air defense Stinger Missiles via the Standard Vehicle Mounted Launcher and an electronic .50 caliber machinegun. The Avenger employs a gyro-stabilized turret, which allows the operator to shoot both missiles and .50-caliber machinegun on the move, and is additionally equipped with, Identification Friend or Foe (IFF), Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR), and a laser range finder. The Avenger will have upgrades, which include the initial procurement of the Avenger Fire Control Computer, which replaces the obsolete Avenger Control Electronics and provides an embedded Automatic Video Tracking capability.

### ***Operational Impact***

The Avenger employs the only Air Defense Weapon in the forward area. It supports the maneuver style of warfare of the Marine Air Ground Task Force providing defense against high speed, close in, low altitude, fixed and rotary wing aircraft throughout the theater of operations. However, the magnitude of the threat has proliferated to the point that most developed countries are developing more advanced systems. The Avenger enhancements allow the MAGTF to fully capitalize on the upgrades to the Block I configuration Stinger Missile and provides increased defense against low-aspect angle targets, reactive infrared countermeasures, night engagements, and engaging targets in clutter. This upgrade has increased the acquisition range of the missile (out beyond 10 kilometers) and has been proven to be more effective against Unmanned Aerial Vehicles and low end Cruise Missiles.

### ***Program Status***

The Avenger is a fully fielded system. The Avenger upgrades will start fielding in early FY02 and will be completed in late FY03.

### ***Procurement Profile: FY01 FY02***

Quantity: 0 202

### ***Developer/Manufacturer***

Raytheon Corporation

